

Marked Version Showing AmendmentsIn the Specification:

On page 1, immediately following the paragraph entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" and before the paragraph entitled "Field of the Invention", the following new paragraph has been inserted:

--Government Rights

This invention was made in part using government support under NIH Grant No. 20519, awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The government has certain rights to this invention.--

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 12, 18, 21, and 33 have been amended as shown below.

Claims 9, 10, 13, 14, 19, 20, 22, 30, 31, and 32 are not changed.

1. (Twice Amended) A method to desensitize a B cell antigen receptor, said method comprising: contacting a B cell antigen receptor with an antibody, wherein said B cell antigen receptor has a transducer component consisting of an Ig α -Ig β dimer, and [an] a membrane Ig (mIg) [extracellular ligand binding] component, wherein said antibody binds to the extracellular domain of said transducer component[, and wherein said antibody does not substantially stimulate said B cell antigen receptor];

wherein contact with said antibody: (1) causes a dissociation of said mIg [extracellular ligand binding] component from said transducer component when said components are associated with each other prior to contact with said antibody; or (2) inhibits association of said mIg [extracellular ligand binding] component with said transducer component when said components are dissociated from each other prior to contact with said antibody;

and wherein said B cell antigen receptor remains competent to bind its antigen, and fails, or has a reduced ability, to transduce signals.

